

will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,221,832,717,891.35. We've added \$8,594,955,668,978.27 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING THOMAS "TOMMY"
BAKER JR.

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2016

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks to honor the life of Thomas "Tommy" Baker Jr., who passed away on April 15, 2016.

Tommy was born on October 3, 1956 in Radford, Virginia. He graduated from Radford College and the Washington and Lee School of Law. He served as the town attorney in Dublin, Virginia, and ran his own law practice there for many years. Additionally, Tommy served in the General Assembly from 1990 to 2000.

Dublin Mayor Benny Skeens, a friend of Tommy's since both were in high school, told the Roanoke Times, "[Tommy] had probably one of the brightest minds, as far as municipal law goes, of anyone I've known. . . . He taught me so much."

Mayor Skeens also said, "Anything that's happened in the town of Dublin in the past 20 years, Tommy had his hand in it."

I went to law school with Tommy, and also served in the Virginia House of Delegates with him. Tommy's son Jefferson told the Roanoke Times that his father's love of Pulaski County and of public service transcended party politics. I would agree.

Additionally, Tommy was a fun-loving practical joker, and he kept the entire House entertained. As Mayor Skeens said, Tommy ". . . was one of those people, when he walked in the room, the atmosphere changed. . . . He brightened people up."

I am saddened by Tommy's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with Tommy's parents, his son Jefferson, and the rest of his family.

TRIBUTE TO OLGA BRUNO DE
MUNOZ

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Olga

Bruno de Munoz of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the celebration of her 100th birthday on March 21, 2016.

Ms. Munoz attended high school in Guayama, Puerto Rico and graduated with a secretarial degree, later moving on to work for the Puerto Rican government. Ms. Munoz and her late husband, Bartolome M. Munoz, were the parents of two daughters, Olga and Margie, and she has seven grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and two great-great granddaughters. Ms. Munoz enjoys reading and shopping and says her favorite foods are Puerto Rican and Chinese. While living in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Olga was an active volunteer with the Presbyterian Hospital and loved to design dresses for her daughters.

Our world has changed a great deal during the course of Ms. Munoz's life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Ms. Munoz has lived through seventeen United States Presidents and twenty-four Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

I am honored and pleased to congratulate Olga Bruno de Munoz on her 100th birthday. I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Ms. Munoz on reaching this incredible milestone, and I wish her even more health and happiness in the years to come.

CELEBRATING AMBER ECKSTEIN

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2016

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise Amber Eckstein, who has been selected as the 2015–2016 ACT College and Career Readiness Campaign state exemplar in Minnesota.

In order to receive this prestigious honor, an individual must prove their strong effort towards college and career readiness, and Amber certainly embodies these requirements.

Education is the key that opens all of life's doors. In the United States today, a college degree has become more necessary than ever before, with the majority of jobs requiring some sort of post-secondary education. That is why it is imperative that students across the nation strive to achieve academic success and earn a higher education.

I would like to commend Amber for working so hard to earn a better future; her impressive efforts make her a leader among her generation and lead me to believe that she is a young woman who we will see great things from. I would also like to commend the ACT organization for working to promote higher education among our nation's students.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF MARY ANN WASIL

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2016

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with the heaviest of hearts that I rise today to take a moment to pay tribute to an incredible woman who I consider one of my personal heroes, Mary Ann Wasil who lost a brilliant battle with breast cancer late last week. Mary Ann possessed a tenacious spirit, an unyielding faith, a heart full of love, and an infectious smile—she was one-of-a-kind and will be deeply missed by all of those fortunate enough to have known and worked with her.

For one whose life was cut so short, Mary Ann had an extraordinary story. She was a police officer, an actor, a development officer for her church and its elementary school, the founder of a non-profit organization, a health activist, and, most importantly and above all others, a mother of three. She gave 110 percent to everything that she did, every project she undertook, and every battle she fought.

Breast cancer was what took Mary Ann from us, but it is also what one of her lasting legacies was born from. Battling to remission after her first diagnosis with Stage II breast cancer in 2004, Mary Ann took her experience and turned it into, not only a teachable moment, but a successful and much needed breast health initiative, the Get in Touch Foundation. Mary Ann discovered the initial lump in her breast while doing a self-breast examination and her cancer was only diagnosed correctly and quickly because she was so familiar with her body and her breasts. Even with some doctors telling her not to worry, to wait, Mary Ann pushed on because she knew it was more than a simple fluctuation.

As Mary Ann waged her war with breast cancer, she looked into the eyes of her two young daughters and knew she wanted to do something to make sure that they, as well as young girls everywhere, were armed with all of the information and tools they would need to be strong and smart in breast health. Thus, the Get in Touch Foundation was born. The Get In Touch Girls Program and Daisy Wheel teaches girls to "get in touch" with their bodies through self-examination. Developed by board members and members of the medical community, including focus-groups of girls ages 8 through 18, the interactive Daisy Wheel teaches the importance of and how to do a breast self-examination. The Daisy Wheel is given to girls in grades 9 through 12 when health educators discuss hygiene and the girls' changing bodies. The program has been implemented in more than twenty-six countries across the globe and the Daisy Wheel has been downloaded in more than eighty countries. The impact of this program is as extraordinary as its founder.

In 2010 Mary Ann won a contract from Balboa Press to publish her memoir, *A Diary of Healing: My Intense and Meaningful Life with Cancer*. Throughout its pages you can hear Mary Ann's laughter, feel her outrage, and you will often find yourself crying with her, experiencing the twists and turns of her journey. Mary Ann battled back to remission several times over the last decade, always grateful for the additional time she had with family and